

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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10 Cents

1954 Review Reveals Varied Year Of Land Deals, Shorts, Tax Battle

A variety of events filled the pages of this newspaper during the year 1954, ranging from the ups and downs of GVHC's negotiations to sell its vacant land to whether shorts should be worn at the Center, climaxed by a lively battle on taxes. The newspaper itself made news when it was decided to change its name from the *Cooperator* to the *News Review*. At any rate, here is the panorama of 1954 in Greenbelt as presented in the pages of the *Greenbelt Cooperator-News Review*.

January

The problem of teen-agers drinking on the premises of the Drop Inn was revealed in the January 7 issue. The Drop Inn membership cards of six local teen-agers were revoked when they were found drunk, ill, and disorderly following a Christmas dance. That same week the city council considered a refreshment concession for the lake picnic area during the summer, although nothing later came of it.

The next issue announced the revival of the Greenbelt Citizens Association, and a long letter from Roger Willcox, GVHC's planner, stirred up discussion on the location of the new InterCounty Belt Freeway which threatened to cut off valuable GVHC land. This continued to be the chief topic for the rest of the month.

February

The first February issue revealed that Bob Volckhausen had been elected president of the revived Greenbelt Citizens Association, although only for a three-month period. Only 70 members attended the quarterly membership meeting of the Greenbelt Veteran Housing Corporation, the first of a series of membership meetings at which less than a quorum were present. However, as the time for the annual election meeting approached, interest grew as the Hare or proportional representational voting system was thrown out as illegal by the GVHC board. It was also announced that month that the second model house would be erected on the site of the new co-operative homes building project.

Nominations for the new GVHC board began to pour in, according to the issue of February 18, which also announced that GVHC had decided to take action in the case of two GVHC members who refused to get rid of their dogs. It was decided to terminate their contracts. However, the next issue told how this proved unnecessary as both members agreed to give up their dogs.

March

* The first issue in this month told of resistance to the GVHC board's action in abolishing the Hare system of electing officers. There was also the story of a car-theft gang of eight boys and three girls apprehended by the Greenbelt police. Most, but not all, were outsiders. The big news of the month was the annual GVHC election. Ed Burgoon, Bruce Bowman, Ralph Webster, Al Long, and Frank Lastner received the most votes in that order and won election to the board, but there were run-offs for the other four positions. The next issue revealed that Hans Jorgensen, Lloyd Moore, Frank Kriby, and Wayne Tucker were the winners in the run-off election. Ralph Webster was reelected president of the board, Burgoon became vice-president again, Bowman was renewed as secretary, and a new man, Lloyd Moore, became treasurer.

April

The new long-awaited Greenbelt directory was out, and local groups participated in selling it. At the first regular meeting of the new Greenbelt Citizens Association Bob Volckhausen was overwhelmingly elected chairman for the coming year. That month the first news of a possible deal to sell GVHC's

vacant land was published, and we also learned of the new co-op shopping center planned for the Wheaton area. PHA announced that the remaining 818 acres of Greenbelt vacant land would go to the highest bidder. Six incumbents and two newcomers, including Rev. Hull, were elected to the Greenbelt Consumer Services board. The Chasanow case broke toward the end of April, and the *Cooperator* carried a front page editorial asking the community not to become panicky. The same issue carried a story of fund-raising campaign for a Greenbelt boy who was badly hurt in a freak accident.

May

GVHC finally announced that the Johnson-Crooks Corporation of Portland, Ore., had been sold the vacant land for the construction of detached, single-family houses. In that same issue a Cleanup Committee was formed to begin a campaign against "litterbugs." A few weeks later an essay contest to promote this campaign was announced. Harold Hufendick was elected president of the Center School PTA for the following year.

June

GVHC announced plans to encourage GVHC members to paint the exteriors of their homes themselves with the paint provided by GVHC. Members of a row only had to agree on a color but could paint when they chose. This led to a considerable sprucing up of Greenbelt homes. The successful bidders on the 818 acres of vacant land were revealed with buyers paying PHA more than half a million dollars for the land.

July

The Fourth of July was celebrated here on the fifth with the usual parade and fireworks, and the campaign to permit the wearing of shorts at the Center got off to a rollicking start with plans to poll residents on the subject. It turned out that those opposed to shorts were in a slight majority, and the city council decided to table the whole thing. That month the question of possible "conflict of interest" due to Abe Chasanow's position as counsel for GVHC and also head of Greenbelt Realty arose, with Chasanow winning a unanimous vote of confidence from the board. GVHC also announced a new system whereby homeowners could take longer to pay their second mortgages. That month saw the disappearance of the name *Cooperator* from the newspaper's name as the staff pondered a new name.

August

Light industry was talked about for Greenbelt while the paper continued without a name. Greenbelt had a short water ban as the area experienced a drought. Late in the month the American Legion dedicated its brightly remodeled home.

September

Wayne Tucker left Greenbelt and was replaced on the GVHC board by Elliot Bukzin. Plans were made for registering local voters in the coming election, and again the GVHC quarterly membership meeting drew only a small crowd. The Community Church held a successful gala carnival, the annual fishing rodeo was held, and at last the newspaper got a new name—the *News Review*. The big news,

Your Income Tax

By E. DonBullian

This second article in the series on changes to the income tax regulations will deal with personal deductions. These deduction are of particular interest to residents of Greenbelt as they include the interest and taxes that will be prorated by GVHC to its members (assuming that Internal Revenue will classify GVHC as a cooperative housing project). To derive any tax benefit from personal deductions they should total more than 10% of your income. Otherwise it would be more advantageous to take the standard deduction of 10% by the regulations. The GVHC interest and taxes will be a major factor in accumulating enough personal deductions to exceed 10% of your income.

Contributions

The numerous contributions allowed by the regulations will be limited to 30% of the taxpayer's income. A further restriction designates the recipients of the 10% additional contributions permitted by the new regulations. This additional 10% must be given to churches, religious groups, educational institutions or hospitals. These limitations should not affect local taxpayers as most Greenbelt residents ordinarily make their contributions to the listed types of organizations. Incidentally, the estimated value of used clothing, furniture, etc. donated to Salvation Army, Good Will, etc. can be listed as charitable deductions. Contributions to the various charitable projects sponsored by Lions, Elks, etc. are also deductible. The above is not meant to be an exhaustive study on contributions; if you are in doubt check into it before you list it on your income tax return.

Taxes

To the amount reported to you as your share of GVHC taxes you can add the following **State, County or City taxes** that you have paid in the taxable year—Income, other realty, sales, gasoline, automobile (both plates and title transfer), etc., there are many others that the majority of taxpayers have seldom heard of and perhaps never paid. See **INCOME TAX, Page 2**

however, was that FHA refused to finance the Johnson-Crooks housing construction, and GVHC had to start all over again to market its vacant land.

October

The reduction of taxes was now in the headlines as the city council began the yearly "battle of the budget." Meanwhile, GVHC began to negotiate with another company for the vacant land. Another incident involving difficulty between Greenbelt Realty and GVHC occurred.

November

The city council decided to cut taxes by putting the trash pick-up on a fee basis and integrating the library with the county system. The citizens prepared to bombard the council with questions on the budget. They preferred to keep up the services but could not convince the city council to maintain support of the local library. Meanwhile, Frank Lastner became ex-mayor and a new county commissioner. The vacant land was finally sold to the Warner-Kanter Company of Cincinnati. A book on Greenbelt was published. The *News Review* was cut to two pages for the first time.

December

The big news of the month was the announcement of the 1955 tax rate as \$1.71 per \$100 of assessed valuation and the election of Jim Smith to fill the vacant place on the city council. Jim Wolfe became mayor. Greenbelt looked to another interesting year.

To Everyone, Both Short And Tall A Happy New Year To You All

Here's a poem of New Year cheer—

To welcome in the coming year.
Greetings, then, to each of you.
From us—the Greenbelt News Review.

To Panagoulis, George the Chief,
(He is really not a thief)
And James C. Smith, the best by far
(They only borrowed Hanyok's car).

Here's to Ike, and also Mamie,
Loftus, Mike, and Win McCamy.
The city's finest, Austin Green,
And his wife, the beauty queen.

Old McDonald, and his farm,
May they never come to harm.
To Donnie Wolfe and Mayor Jim,
Lots of Christmas trees to trim.

To every club and group in town,
Never any cause to frown.
Especially never any cryin'
To every roaring Greenbelt Lion.

Andros, Percy, Algaze, Rae,
J. Walsh Barcus, Bell, Jack A.
Barrick, Frank, Bartholomew,
We drink a toast to all of you.

Reverend Birner, Birdseye, Fred,
Dr. Bloomberg, Carter, Ed,
Elliot Bukzin, Ed Burgoon,
May all your dreams come true but soon.

A special wish for all the best,
Even more than all the rest,
A year as good as it can be
For Buddy Attick's family.

To Terry Braund and Ann, his wife,
The best of everything in life.
And all that's nice, but nothing dull
To a wonderful guy named Reverend Hull.

To Brautigam, Henry, all our thanks.
May he inherit all the banks.
And all of us should lend a hand
To Vince Caruso and the band.

To Caldwell, Donald, Canning, Carr,
Cashman, Jim, and Coleman, R.
Joe Compton, Cormack, C.,
Everything from A to Z.

To Dr. Crowder, Davis, Roy,
Domchick, Dondy, and every boy,
Eshbaugh, George, and Feldman, S.,
A year that's filled with great success.

To Thomas Freeman and his clan,
Each and every mailman,
Shorter hours and better pay
So they can see the light of day.

To Sherman Friend and Fruchtman, Jack,
Robert Garin, Connie Mack,
And all the Hanyoks living here,
Every kind of bonded cheer.

To Hatton, Herling, Herman, Hicks,
Hoffman, Coffman, the Hufen-dicks,
Johnson, Jorgensen and Jones,
Lots of friends to warm their phones.

To Mrs. Kinzer, Keaney, Ken,
Bernie Krug and Baron, Len,
Lilburn, Lee and Linson, Ellen,
Free good cheer to you we're sellin'

Now we sing a merry song
To honor friend Adelbert Long.
May he someday learn to write
A column which is always right.

To Tony Madden, Maffay, John,
Peggy Markfield, a Kern named Don,
And McCauley, Vice-Commander,
We drink a brandy Alexander

To Dr. Moody, Morrison, A.,
John P. Murray, and John K.,
I. J. Parker and his girls,
May they all be Milton Berles.

To Ratzkin, Sanders, no mirage,
We wish a hearty "bon voyage."
And the best you've ever seen
To all who live at Seventeen

To Plackett A. and daughter M.,
The best of luck to both of them.
The same to Sisco, Sirlin, Small,
Schwimen, Slaughter, Schine and Saul.

To Ritchie, Tom, and Ellie, too,
A happy year for both of you,
And Reverend Strausburg, good old scout,
With him we cannot do without.

To Thomas, Earl, and Trattler, B.,
Wever, Leo, Christian, Z.
Dr. Wodak, Tredwell, Bill,
Everything you want or will.

To Campbell, Paul, and David Kane,
Members who are not insane.
To everyone who labors there
A raise next year for them to share.

To Webster, Ralph, who leaves us now,
A photograph of Abe Chasanow.
And to the board he leaves behind.
Anyone whom they can find.

To each and every co-op store,
Money—more and more and more.
And perhaps some zeal and zest
Which in Greenbelt they'll invest.

To Lastner, Frank, our former mayor,
We offer up this little prayer—
May he always be elected
To the office he's selected.

And now we end this bit of fun,
Though we hardly mentioned anyone.
If we forgot to use your name,
Happy New Year all the same!

(H.Z.)

Adult Education Classes

Classes for Adult Education will commence for the second semester at Northwestern Senior High School, Hyattsville. A fee of \$2 is required for each enrollee per semester. Classes must have 15 or more students. Registration will take place as per the schedule below:

Class	Room	Registration Date	Times
Art	Room 211	Tuesday, Jan. 4	6:30-10:30 p.m.
Art	Room 212	Tuesday, Jan. 4	7:00-11:00 p.m.
Sewing	Room 215	Monday, Jan. 24	6:30-10:30 p.m.
Sewing	Room 215	Thursday, Jan. 27	6:30-10:30 p.m.
Typewriting	Room 203	Monday, Jan. 3	7:30-9:30 p.m.
Typewriting	Room 200	Wednesday, Jan. 5	7:30-9:30 p.m.
Ceramics	Room 113	Tuesday, Jan. 4	6:30-10:30 p.m.
Wood Shop	Room 113	Monday, Jan. 3	6:30-10:30 p.m.
Interior-Decorating	Room 214	Thursday, Jan. 6	6:30-10:30 p.m.
Beginning-Shorthand	Room 205	Monday, Jan. 3	6:30-9:30 p.m.
Advanced-Shorthand	Room 205	Tuesday, Jan. 4	6:30-9:30 p.m.

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW



AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Vol. 19

Thursday, December 30, 1954

No. 21

Health For All

The Forgotten Man

In this week between Christmas and New Year's Day the newspapers, radio, and TV are recalling the events of the year just ending. The trends are analyzed and predictions are made. In a smaller way, families are going through the same process which comes to a head on New Year's Eve with resolutions for the coming year.

While resolutions are still being considered, may we enter a plea for the forgotten man, father. Plenty of attention is paid to the health of the very young and the very old, but the man in the middle—the man who does the world's work and pays the bills—is too often forgotten. He's a pretty important guy. If he doesn't keep well, we're all in trouble.

Let's do a little analyzing to find out whether he is keeping well. One study made in industrial plants this past year indicates that a good many fathers aren't eating a healthy diet. It was found that the majority were having coffee and a roll for breakfast, easing mid-morning hunger with high calorie snacks like candy bars, grabbing a sandwich and coffee for lunch. Malnutrition and obesity were entirely too common. Only one square meal a day, a diet low in protective foods, such as milk, fruits and green vegetables—it's an invitation to trouble.

And father is having trouble, too. Statistics show that there is more serious illness, more deaths among men of middle years than among women. They have more tuberculosis, for instance. Yet we know that a healthy, well-nourished person can usually fight TB germs to a standstill.

If father isn't taking proper care of his health, isn't eating right or getting enough sleep, rest, and recreation, we can resolve to do something about it. It may take some managing to help him take reasonable care of his health and to get him to the doctor's office for the physical examination and chest X-ray he should have regularly. Possibly, if father realizes he is appreciated, he will cooperate.

Local Boy Helps Santa

Kenneth Kramer, 5-H Ridge, was chosen in the Hecht Company-Billy Johnson contest to be one of Santa's helpers. He helped Billy Johnson distribute gifts to the children of the "Meriwether Home for Children" in Washington.

NEW YEAR'S MASSES

Masses will be celebrated at St. Hugh's Catholic Church on New Year's Day at 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, and 11 a.m.

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Essay That Won Clean-up Contest

Ronald Atherholt, a student at Greenbelt Junior High, told a success story about himself and his neighbors in an essay that won him the first prize of \$25 in The Clean-up Essay Contest. His essay follows:

"What I Have Done During The Summer To Keep Greenbelt Clean

"In our court we have a clean-up program. Every month a different family cleans up the court. Places like in the parking lot, along the walk, etc.

"When it comes our turn I have to do it by myself. Both my father and mother work.

"I rake up the parking lot, put the things I raked up in a paper bag or basket. I also cut the grass along the hedge in the lot. I pick up any paper I see along the walk. Even though it isn't our turn I pick up the paper in the court.

"In our yard I cut the grass, care for the gardens, pick up any paper I see lying around. I also weed underneath the hedge.

"Once the bulb of a lamp post fell and shattered badly. I took a broom and a dust pan and cleaned it up. That took about an hour.

"And that is what I did during the summer to keep Greenbelt clean."

METHODIST SERVICES

This Sunday begins the church attendance crusade at the Mowatt Memorial Methodist Church. This is a special service of worship to observe the beginning of a new year, a service John Wesley inaugurated in 1775.

Prayers For Mrs. Hoffman

Special prayers for Mrs. Sylvia Hoffman, who was seriously injured in an accident in her home at 3-H Eastway, will be offered Friday night, December 31, at the regular weekly services of the Jewish Community Center.

The services will be held this week at the home of Charles Danish, 16-Q Ridge, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Candlelighting time is at 4:18 p.m.

INCOME TAX from page 1

Practically all State, County, and City taxes are deductible; but there are exceptions. If you are in doubt check into them. There are practically no federal taxes that are deductible as personal deductions on a federal income tax report.

Interest

To the interest allocated to you by GVHC will be added any additional interest you have paid to anyone (there are some technical limitations but most Greenbelt tax

payers will not be affected by them). The tax changes permit you to deduct interest on installment purchases. If your installment purchase contract does not indicate the interest charged, you may take 6% of the average annual balance as an interest deduction. In prior years the interest had to be indicated in the contract before you could claim it as a personal interest deduction.

(Questions of general nature will be answered by calling GRanite 4-8746.)

CLASSIFIED

(Classified rates are three cents per word, fifty cents minimum. Ads should be submitted in writing, accompanied by cash payment, to the News Review not later than 10 p.m. of the Tuesday preceding publication. If accompanied by cash payment, ads may be left for collection in the News Review box at the tobacco store (open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.). "FOUND" ads will be printed free of charge.

TYPEWRITER service. Cleaning, overhauling, repairing. Electric, standard, portable. R. F. Poland, GR. 3-2537, nights and weekends. CALDWELL'S WASHING MACHINE SALES & SERVICE — Automatic and conventional models expertly repaired. Reasonable. Guaranteed. Free Estimate. Phone GR. 3-4063.

WANTED - Houses in Greenbelt. Have prospective buyers for houses and apartments. Will be glad to assist Greenbelters in selling their homes. GREENBELT REALTY COMPANY, 151 Centerway (former Police Station), GR. 3-4571.

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WILL DO IRONING in my home. Call GR. 4-8911 after 5 p.m.

WANTED: Lubrication man, Greenbelt Service Station. Apply to Danny Jones.

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